

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A fractionation device for separating one or more solutes from a raw liquid with a membrane comprising:

- 1) a supply part for loading the raw liquid;
- 2) a filtration part connected to the supply part by a flow channel for filtering out one or more solutes from the raw liquid received from the supply part to produce a filtrate;
- 3) a concentration part connected to the filtration part by a flow channel for increasing the concentration of one or more solutes in the filtrate received from the filtration part to produce a concentrated solution; and
- 4) one or more flow pumps operatively connected to one or more of the supply part, filtration part and concentration part for moving liquid through the fractionation device, wherein the filtration part, the concentration part, and the flow channel connecting the filtration part and the concentration part form a closed circuit.

2. (Previously presented) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

- 5) a recovery part connected to the concentration part by a flow channel for recovering the concentrated solution obtained in the concentration part, wherein the supply part, the filtration part, and the flow channel connecting the supply part and the filtration part form a closed circuit, and wherein the concentration part, the recovery part, and a flow channel connecting the concentration part and the recovery part form a closed circuit.

3. (Original) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the total inner capacity of the closed circuits is 50 mL or lower.

4. (Previously presented) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 2, wherein a filtration apparatus is employed in each of the filtration part and the concentration part each.

5. (Original) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the filtration apparatus is a module having hollow fiber membranes.
6. (Original) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the flow channel connecting the supply part and the filtration part is provided with a pump.
7. (Original) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the recovery part is a container for sampling a concentrated liquid.
8. (Original) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 7, wherein a buffer part for buffering the volumetric alteration at the time of loading the raw liquid is installed at any position in the circuit.
9. (Original) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 7, wherein at least a portion of the circuit composed of the supply part, the filtration part, the concentration part, the recovery part, and flow channels connecting the respective parts is assembled in a cartridge.
10. (Original) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the flow pump is a tube pump provided with a rotating rotor and a roller installed in a rotating manner in the outer circumference of the rotor and a portion of the outer wall of the cartridge is a squeezing member for squeezing a part of the flow channels of the circuit
11. (Original) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the fractionation device is provided with a transportation mechanism for transporting the cartridge in the direction to and from the rotor of the roller type tube pump to squeeze a flow pipe.
12. (Previously Presented) The fractionation device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the raw liquid is a body fluid or a biological component-containing solution.

13. (Previously Presented) A fractionation device comprising a cartridge and a roller type tube pump for separating solutes or some of the solutes in a raw liquid by a membrane, wherein the cartridge comprises at least a portion of a circuit having at least a supply part for loading the raw liquid, means connected with the supply part by a flow channel for fractionating solutes of the raw liquid by a membrane, and a recovery part connected with the means for fractionating the solutes for recovering the fractionated solutes, the circuit is a closed circuit, a part of the outer wall of the cartridge is a squeezing member for squeezing a tube of the roller type tube pump, and the tube forming a part of the circuit is disposed on a part of the outer wall of the squeezing member.

14. (Previously Presented) A circuit of a fractionation device for separating solutes or some of the solutes from a raw liquid by a membrane, wherein a cartridge includes at least a portion of a circuit comprising a supply part for loading the raw liquid, means connected with the supply part by a flow channel for fractionating solutes of the raw liquid by a membrane, and a recovery part connected with the means for fractionating the solutes for recovering the fractionated solutes in a cartridge, the circuit is a closed circuit, a part of the outer wall of the cartridge forms a squeezing member, and a tube forming a part of the circuit is disposed on a portion of the outer wall of the squeezing member.

15. (Currently Amended) A fractionation device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the module of the filtration part has biological component separation method for separating some of biological components by supplying a biological component derived sample to an antibody-adsorbing membrane separation system containing, in a middle or a rear part of the membrane separation system, an antibody capable of adsorbing specified proteins and having a permeation ratio of human α_1 microglobulin and human albumin (permeability of human α_1

microglobulin/permeability of human albumin) in a range from 1.5 or higher to 1000 or lower under a condition that no antibody adsorbing proteins exists in the device, and an antibody capable of adsorbing specified proteins is contained in a middle or a rear part of the module of the filtration part system, wherein the concentration of proteins obtained by the separation is 10% or lower in 100% concentration achieved by the membrane separation system in the condition that no antibody exists.

16. (Currently Amended) The fractionation device ~~biological component separation method~~ as claimed in claim 15, wherein the specified proteins are serum albumin, immunoglobulin G, immunoglobulin A, immunoglobulin M, transferrin, haptoglobin, α_1 -antitrypsin, α_2 -macroglobulin, α_1 -acid glycoprotein, fibrinogen, complement C1q, complement C3, complement C4, complement C8, complement C9, complement factor B, apolipoprotein A, apolipoprotein B, Lp(a), collagen, myosin, actin, cytokeratin, keratin, and/or fibronectin.

17. (Currently Amended) The fractionation device ~~biological component separation method~~ as claimed in claim 16, wherein the antibody is polyclonal antibody, monoclonal, or their fragments containing the antigen recognition sites.

18. (Currently Amended) The fractionation device ~~biological component separation method~~ as claimed in claim 17, wherein the antibody is fixed in the membrane surface of the module of the filtration part ~~membrane separation system.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The fractionation device ~~biological component separation method~~ as claimed in claim 18, wherein the filtration part ~~membrane separation system~~ comprises columns containing hollow fiber ~~separation membranes~~ therein and arranged in multi-step in series and the antibody is fixed in the surface in the raw liquid side of the ~~separation~~ membrane of the column in the first stage.

20. (Currently Amended) The fractionation device ~~biological component separation method~~ as

claimed in claim 18 [[19]], wherein the filtration part ~~membrane separation system~~ comprises columns containing hollow fiber ~~separation membranes~~ therein and arranged in multi-step in series and the antibody is fixed in the surface in the permeation side of the separation membrane of the column in the first stage.

21. (Currently Amended) The fractionation device ~~biological component separation method~~ as claimed in claim 18, wherein the filtration part ~~membrane separation system~~ comprises columns containing hollow fiber ~~separation membranes~~ therein and arranged in multi-step in series and the antibody exists in the mobile phase in the flow channel between the membrane of the column in a prior stage and the membrane of the column in a posterior stage.

22. (Currently Amended) The fractionation device ~~biological component separation method~~ as claimed in claim 18 [[21]], wherein the filtration part ~~membrane separation system~~ comprises columns containing hollow fiber ~~separation membranes~~ therein and arranged in multi-step in series and the antibody is fixed in the flow channel between the membrane of the column in a prior stage and the membrane of the column in a posterior stage.

23.-27. (Cancelled)